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PATENT

Our Docket: 66655-021 (P-NI 4447)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APR 14 2003

In re Application of
Tononi et al.

Serial No: 09/733,607

Filed: December 8, 2000

For: VIGILANCE NUCLEIC ACIDS
AND RELATED DIAGNOSTIC,
SCREENING AND THERAPEUTIC
METHODS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

) Conf. No.: 4199

) Group Art Unit: 1647

) Examiner: S. Wegert

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Responsive to the Office Action mailed
November 5, 2002, Applicants respectfully request entry of the
following Remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 12 and 13 are presently pending and under
examination.

Regarding the Claim Objections

Claims 12 and 13 are objected to for allegedly reciting
non-elected inventions. While the Office will conduct its search
with regard to the elected species, Applicants respectfully
submit that there is no requirement to amend the pending claims
so as to remove recitation of non-elected species.